

4th Quarter English Composition Writing Assignment Information

While most compositional writing will entail more than one style of writing, there are four “styles” in English that are the foundation of English Composition:

Narrative writing: mostly about telling a story or sharing a personal experience

Descriptive writing: used to give an idea about a product, service or a thing

Expository writing: used to expose facts

Persuasive (argumentative) writing: used to convince the reader to perform an action

Each of those writing styles (types) is ideal to accomplish a specific goal. For instance:

- If you purpose to market a product, you must rely on the primary principles of persuasive writing.
- If purposed to share an experience, you must adhere to a narrative writing style.
- If you want to bring information to the public, both expository and argumentative writing comes into play (usually with a good dose of narrative to draw your audience in and make them sympathetic to your cause).

Hopefully you understand what I’m getting at here; while our focus will be on these four writing styles for the remainder of the year, you cannot just master one style of writing and assume that you’re done. Good writing will require mastery of all four styles!

Take a look at the calendars that are being provided to you along with this document. Notice when due dates for essays are. These due dates are for **completed** rough drafts of your essays. You may choose to work on your essays in any order you want to work on them, but they will be presented to you in an order that I choose. For example, if I give you information on Narrative Essay first, and then Persuasive Essay second, you can turn in Persuasive Essay on the first due date and wait for Narrative Essay until the final due date; however, you cannot turn in Expository or Descriptive until I’ve given you the information necessary to write those essays.

These are the following prompts you will be asked to respond to. You can begin thinking about the prompts and even beginning research, but remember that you’re supposed to wait on actually writing the essay until we’ve gone over the requirements in class.

1. **Narrative** – Everyone in life has traveled somewhere. Whether it’s to some far-off location, a foreign country, another state, or just to the gas station to buy an energy drink for your mom. We’ve all taken journeys. In our novel, the main characters must take a journey that is going to remove them from the comfort of their homes, their loved ones, and everything they’ve known. This is a life-changing journey—even a dangerous journey—for them. In a narrative essay, tell me about a journey you’ve taken. I don’t want to know every minute little detail about the journey. Instead, I want you to focus on one aspect of your journey and let that be the focus (i.e. thesis) of your narrative.

2. **Descriptive** – In narrative, you practiced writing descriptively, now the focus of this essay *is* to write descriptively. By this point in the novel, we’ve discovered that the rabbits are increasingly having to interact with humans. Things and events that are new to them (human created or not) are both wonderful and dangerous to them at the same time. In a descriptive essay, consider “something” that you’ve come across in your life that is both wonderful and dangerous. It can be a person, a place, an event, an animal, a job or occupation, or even a behavior. Do not use this as an opportunity to describe a “thing” though. I don’t want to see essays about firearms (while both wonderful and dangerous, that’s not what we’re looking for here).
3. **Expository** – Something is wrong with this world and it’s your job to expose the facts! In your expository essay, it is up to you to figure out what is wrong, why it has gone wrong, and what can be done to fix the situation. From social problems to politics to pet peeves, it is your responsibility to fix the world! You will be writing an expository essay in which you describe the problem that you have identified, the reasons this has become a problem, and the solution to how this problem is to be fixed.
4. **Persuasive** – Hazel is probably one of the most persuasive rabbits you’ve ever met. Like Hazel, it’s your responsibility to persuade your audience now. You will be writing a persuasive essay on a topic of your choice. Please make sure that you understand the requirements for topic choice before you embark on this assignment.

As stated earlier, you are more than welcome to choose any one essay prompt to begin and to turn in before the others; however, you must wait for instructions on each prompt before you can actually turn in the assignment. If we haven’t gone over how to write that particular essay, then you don’t turn it in yet.

Each essay is due in **completed** rough draft form on the due dates shown in the class calendar. Completed rough draft form means that it has not been submitted and reviewed by your teacher, but it has been reviewed by you—and possibly a peer or two—before submission, it is complete, and ready to be taken to the final stage of editing. It will have mistakes, but they should be minimal!

The final two essay due dates, are for final drafts of any two essays you choose. These two essays will be completed to perfection and will be turned in for a final-final grade. Again, please see the calendar for due dates.

March 2019

Monday	Tuesday	Thursday
<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Pass out Grammar I & II -Read <i>Fahrenheit 451</i> in class -Read p. 115-130 on own 	<p>28</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Finish <i>Fahrenheit 451</i> -Pass out <i>Fahrenheit 451</i> Test
<p>4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Turn in <i>Fahrenheit 451</i> Test -Pass out Grammar III -Pass out Writing Assignments -Begin 1st Writing Assignment -All previous HW Packets due 	<p>5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Grammar I, II, III Lessons -Continue Writing I 	<p>7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Test Grammar I, II, III -Continue Writing I
<p>11</p>	<p>12</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Pass out Grammar IV -Grammar IV Lesson -Continue Writing I -Writing II Lesson 	<p>14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Test Grammar IV -Writing I due

April 2019

Monday	Tuesday	Thursday
1 – Read Ch. 1-6 -Pass out Grammar V -Grammar V Lesson -Begin 2 nd Writing Assignment	2 -Continue Writing II -Writing III Lesson	4 -Test Grammar V -Continue Writing II
8 – Read Ch. 7-15	9 -Pass out Grammar VI -Grammar VI Lesson -Continue Writing II	11 -Test Grammar VI -Writing II Due
15 – Read Ch. 16-22 -Pass out Grammar VII -Begin 3 rd Writing Assignment Test: <i>Watership Down</i> Part I	16 -Grammar VII Lesson -Continue Writing III -Writing IV Lesson	18 -Test Grammar VII -Continue Writing III
22 – Read Ch. 23-26	23 -Pass out Grammar VIII -Grammar VIII Lesson -Continue Writing III	25 -Test Grammar VIII -Writing III Due
29 – Read Ch. 27-31 -Pass out Grammar IX -Grammar IX Lesson -Begin 4 th Writing Assignment	30 -Continue Writing IV	2

May 2019

Monday	Tuesday	Thursday
29	30	2 -Test Grammar IX -Continue Writing IV Test: <i>Watership Down</i> Part II
6 – Read Ch. 32-37	7 -Pass out Grammar X -Grammar X Lesson -Continue Writing IV	9 -Test Grammar X -Writing IV Due
13 – Read Ch. 38-41 -Pass out Grammar XI -Grammar XI Lesson	14	16 -Test Grammar XI -Final Writing A Due Test: <i>Watership Down</i> Part III
20 – Read Ch. 42-Epilogue	21 -Pass out Grammar XII -Lesson Grammar XII	23 -Test Grammar XII -Final Writing B Due
27	28 -Test Grammar I-XII	30 Test: <i>Watership Down</i> Part IV